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ILLINOIS STUDENTS VOTE

ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS

MAY 13 1996

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The Honorable Jim Edgar, Governor
The Honorable Paul Simon, U.S. Senator

Illinois State Coordinator

League of Women Voters of Illinois Education Fund

TS VOTE STUDENTS VOTE



What Is a Mock Election?

Illinois Students Vote, working in cooperation with the National Student/Parent Mock Election, affords students and their parents an opportunity to participate actively in the political process by simulating an actual election in local school districts.

Through class activities, students will study the candidates and issues of the 1996 state and national elections in order to make informed voting decisions.

Time magazine and Macmillan/McGraw-Hill are primary sponsors of the National Student/Parent Mock Election.

A Valuable Teaching Tool

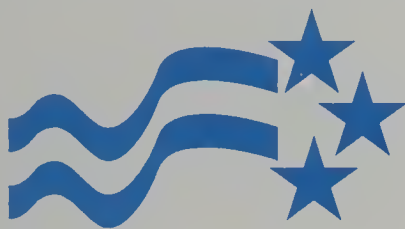
Illinois Students Vote is a valuable teaching tool which has been designed to increase awareness and understanding of the election process, to encourage students and their parents to get involved in the process, and ultimately, to create a generation of voting adults.

Who Can Participate?

Illinois students in kindergarten through 12th grade (and their parents) are eligible to participate and vote in the Mock Election on October 30, 1996.

There are no costs or fees involved.

Participating schools will receive curriculum suggestions and activities. On October 30, Illinois schools will call the state Mock Election headquarters with tabulated votes from their local sites. Tallied state votes will then be called in to the National Student/Parent Mock Election headquarters. CNN will broadcast the national results.



Why Should You and Your Students Participate?

Participating in Illinois Students Vote benefits the whole community by building responsible, contributing, knowledgeable citizens. Activities which are designed to inform and excite students about voting help them understand the need for citizen involvement in a democratic nation. Active participation in a Mock Election, where students learn by doing, roots a habit that will last a lifetime.

Students who participated in the 1992 National Student/Parent Mock Election showed **increased** awareness in:

- ✓ political decision making,
- ✓ informed involvement on current issues,
- ✓ the belief that voting is important,
- ✓ the belief that social studies classes are relevant, and
- ✓ discussion of political topics with their parents.

Their participation also **reduced** their feelings of powerlessness.

Educate the Leaders of Tomorrow

Students who become involved with the election process early will gain an awareness that their actions count. We must always remember that the students of today will be the leaders of tomorrow.

League of Women Voters units are prepared to assist schools throughout the state. If you need more information, please call 312-939-5935 or fax your request to 312-939-6887.



Student/Parent Mock Election Application

Yes! Our school wishes to participate in Illinois Students Vote for 1996. On Mock Election Day (October 30, 1996), a representative from our school will call in our tabulated results to the Illinois Mock Election headquarters.

Local Coordinator's Name

Title

School

Mailing Address

City/State/Zip Code

Area Code/School Telephone Number

Grade Level of Students Participating

Congressional District Where School is Located

Please return this form by May 31, 1996 to:

**Illinois Students Vote
League of Women Voters of Illinois
Suite 1142
332 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60604**

Place
32-cent
Stamp
Here

Illinois Students Vote

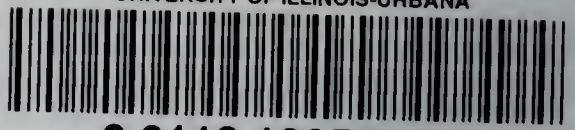
League of Women Voters of Illinois
Suite 1142

332 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60604

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Schedule of Events

April 1996

Illinois Students Vote brochures mailed to all Illinois schools.

May 1996

Schools enroll by returning the application form to Illinois Students Vote.

September 1996

Deadline for enrolling. Curriculum and activities packets will be sent to all registered schools.

October 1996

Program materials, including a Mock Election ballot, will be mailed to all registered schools.

October 30, 1996

Mock Election Day

Votes are called in to state and national Mock Election headquarters. CNN will broadcast the results.

Illinois Students Vote Sponsor

League of Women Voters of Illinois Education Fund

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Danielle Christoffel

Junior, Schaumburg High School

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